



National Child Care Information Center

A service of the Child Care Bureau



Child Care Licensing Requirements (August 2004): Minimum Early Childhood Education (ECE) Preservice Qualifications, Orientation/Initial Licensure, and Annual Ongoing Training Hours for Family Child Care Providers

States*	Providers in Small Family Child Care Homes			Providers in Large Family Child Care Homes		
	ECE Preservice Qualifications	ECE training required in Orientation and/or Initial Licensure	Ongoing Clock Hours	ECE Preservice Qualifications	ECE training required in Orientation and/or Initial Licensure	Ongoing Clock Hours
Alabama	24 clock hours of training	None	20/yr	24 clock hours of training	None	20/yr
Alaska	None	None	12/yr	None	None	20/yr
Arizona	NL (Voluntary certification)			4 clock hours of department-provided training	None	9/yr
Arkansas	NL (Voluntary registration)			None	None	10/yr
California*	15 clock hours of training in preventive health practices	None	0	15 clock hours of training in preventive health practices	None	0
Colorado*	None	12 clock hours of approved orientation training within three months of being licensed	9/yr	None	12 clock hours of approved orientation training within three months of being licensed	9/yr
Connecticut	None	None	0	None	None	1% of hours worked
Delaware*	6 clock hours of approved training provided by the licensing department	15 clock hours of approved training during first year of licensure	12/yr	Certificate from a vocational/technical school child care program and 18 months of experience	None	15/yr
District of Columbia	None	None	0	NC		

Key:

U = Unspecified number of hours required

NL = Not Licensed/License not required

NC = No Category

CDA = Child Development Associate Credential awarded by the Council for Professional Recognition

CCP = Certified Childcare Professional Credential awarded by the National Child Care Association

Compiled by Sarah LeMoine from licensing regulations posted on the National Resource Center for Health and Safety in Child Care's Web site: <http://nrc.uchsc.edu>, August 5, 2004.

Original methodology developed by Gwen Morgan, adapted by Sarah LeMoine.

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Florida*	30-hour Family Child Care Training Course with a score of 70 or better on competency exam	None	0	CDA credential (held for at least 1 year) and the 30-hour Family Child Care Training Course with a score of 70 or better on competency exam	10-hour specialized training module with a score of 70 or better on competency exam within 6 months of licensure	0
Georgia	None	None	10/yr	None	None	10/yr
Hawaii*	U	None	U	CDA credential and 4 years of experience	None	0
Idaho	NL (Voluntary license)			None	None	0
Illinois*	None	None	15/yr	CDA credential	6 clock hours of training related to children with special needs within 3 years	15/yr
Indiana	None	CDA credential within 3 years	0	None	CDA credential within 3 years	0
Iowa	NL (Voluntary registration)			None	None	12/yr
Kansas*	None	None	5/yr	None	None	5/yr
Kentucky*	None	6 clock hours of training within the first 3 months	6/yr	None	6 clock hours of training within the first 3 months	12/yr
Louisiana	NL (Voluntary registration)			NC		
Maine	None	None	6/yr	NC		
Maryland	8 clock hours of approved training	None	10/2yrs	NC		
Massachusetts	Orientation session approved by the licensing office	None	15/3yrs	5 clock hours of large family child care training approved by the licensing office	None	30/3 yrs

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Michigan	None	None	0	None	20 clock hours of training within 2 years	0
Minnesota	None	6 clock hours of approved training within 1 year	6/yr	None	6 clock hours of approved training within 1 year	6/yr
Mississippi*	NL (Voluntary registration)			CDA or Mississippi Child Care Director's credential and 2 years experience	None	15/yr
Missouri	None	None	12/yr	CDA credential	None	12/yr
Montana	None	Department-approved Day Care Orientation within 6 months	8/yr	None	Department-approved Day Care Orientation within 2 months	8/yr
Nebraska	None	None	12/yr	None	None	12/yr
Nevada	None	6 clock hours of training within first 6 months	12/yr	None	6 clock hours of training within first 6 months	12/yr
New Hampshire	None	None	6/yr	None	None	6/yr
New Jersey	NL (Voluntary registration)			NC		
New Mexico	None	None	12/yr	None	None	12/yr
New York	None	15 clock hours of training in the first 6 months	30/2yrs	None	15 clock hours of training in the first 6 months	30/2yrs
North Carolina*	None	None	12/yr	NC		
North Dakota*	None	9 clock hours of training in the first year	9/yr	None	10 clock hours of training in the first year	13/yr
Ohio*	NL			None	None	15/yr
Oklahoma	None	None	12/yr	None	None	15/yr
Oregon*	Family Child Care Overview session	None	8/2yrs	None	None	15/yr
Pennsylvania	None	None	12/2yrs	None	None	6/yr

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Rhode Island	None	None	10/2yrs	CDA credential	None	8/yr
South Carolina*	None	None	0	None	15 clock hours within first year of employment	20/yr
South Dakota	NL (Voluntary registration)			None	None	10/yr
Tennessee	None	DHS-sponsored child care orientation class within the first 3 months	4/yr	None	DHS-sponsored child care orientation class within the first 3 months	8/yr
Texas*	CDA or CCP credential	None	20/yr	72 clock hours of training in child development, 30 clock hours of training in business management, and 3 years experience	None	20/yr
Utah	None	None	20/yr	None	None	20/yr
Vermont	None	None	6/yr	CDA credential and 2 years experience	None	12/yr
Virginia	NL (Voluntary registration)			None	None	6/yr
Washington	20 clock hours of approved training	None	10/yr	NC		
West Virginia*	None	None	8/yr	None	None	10/yr
Wisconsin*	None	40 clock hours of approved training within 6 months of becoming licensed	15/yr	NC		
Wyoming*	None	None	30/2yrs	100 clock hours of approved training and 2 years experience	None	30/2yrs
Total Number of States with Requirement	10	11	34	14	13	37

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Notes:

***States:** *States* includes the District of Columbia for a total of 51 entities.

For the purposes of this document, a **licensed** program is required to have permission from the State to operate and must meet specified family child care standards. Several States have county or city licensing regulations which may supercede State requirements; this table does not include such regulations.

Many States have multiple alternatives to qualify for roles. This table reports the alternative that requires the least amount of ECE training. If a State has requirements for experience, high school completion, age, or training not specified in ECE (such as first aid/CPR) that can substitute for ECE training, it is reported as "None." Below is the "hierarchy of qualifications," which shows the order in which qualification alternatives are placed to determine the **minimum amount of ECE preservice** training.



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***California:** Preventive Health Practices coursework includes many ECE-related topics such as working with children with special needs, management, prevention of childhood injuries, and child nutrition.

***Colorado:** Separate rules exist for providers in Infant/Toddler and Experienced Provider homes.

***Delaware:** In a large family child care home, the second staff person must have 12 clock hours of approved training annually.

***Florida:** Large Family Child Care Home operators have one opportunity to exempt from the 10-clock-hour specialized training module by successfully completing competency examinations with a score of 70 or better; prior to beginning the 30-hour Family Child Care Training Course, small and large family child care staff have one opportunity to pass the competency examination with a score of 70 or better. Within 90 days of employment, employees in large family child care homes must enroll in the 30-hour Family Child Care Training Course, and must complete the course with a score of 70 or better on the competency exam within one year.

***Hawaii:** To obtain initial registration or to renew registration in a small home, the provider must submit written evidence describing efforts made to increase knowledge in two or more of 12 areas specified by the State.

***Idaho:** State certification is required for large family child care homes.

***Illinois:** Group home providers must provide 15 clock hours of training for their assistants every year.

***Kansas:** For both small and large family child care providers, current accreditation by the National Association for Family Child Care can be substituted for the annually required five clock hours of training.

***Mississippi:** The qualification and training requirements listed are for the operator of a child care home ("director" of a child care facility). There are less stringent requirements for other staff ("caregivers"). Directors must take three clock hours of director orientation training, four clock hours of training on the Regulations Governing Licensure of Child Care Facilities, and three clock hours training in playground safety prior to the issuance of a regular license. An additional two hours of training on licensing is required within six months of licensure. Every two years thereafter, as part of the required 15 clock hours of ongoing training, directors must complete four clock hours of training on licensing and three clock hours of training in playground safety.

***North Carolina:** Providers in small family child care homes with 10 or more years of experience are required to have eight clock hours of ongoing training annually.

***North Dakota:** The training requirements listed during initial licensure periods for both small and large homes must include a department-approved six-hour basic child care course.

***Ohio:** Staff are required to participate in 15 clock hours of ongoing training each year for three years only. Staff with a higher education degree or an early childhood credential are not required to participate in ongoing training.

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***Oregon:** The ongoing training requirement for small family child care providers begins when a registered family child care provider submits a second or subsequent renewal application. Before a small home may provide care to more than two children less than 24 months of age, the provider must have at least 30 clock hours of training specific to infant and toddler care.

***South Carolina:** The qualifications and training reported for large homes is for the "Operator." Fifteen clock hours of ongoing training are required the first year; 20 clock hours are required each year thereafter. Other staff in large homes are required to complete 12 clock hours of training annually.

***Texas:** Requirements listed in the table are for "primary caregivers." A primary caregiver with five or fewer years of experience as a primary caregiver in a licensed (large) or registered (small) child care home must complete at least six of the required ongoing clock hours in management techniques, leadership, or staff supervision; primary caregivers with more than five years experience must complete at least two of the required ongoing clock hours in management techniques, leadership, or staff supervision. Other staff must participate yearly in at least 15 clock hours of training.

***West Virginia:** Large family child care requirements listed in the table are for "Operators"; additional staff must obtain eight clock hours of training each year.

***Wisconsin:** If the provider is licensed to care for infants/toddlers, 10 additional clock hours must be in infant/toddler care.

***Wyoming:** The large home requirements reported in the table are for "directors"; less stringent requirements are specified for other staff in large homes.